



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

USAID Engagement with the Academic Community

January 24 & 30, 2012

Pre-solicitation/webinar discussion-
Final RFA supersedes this document



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

Agenda

- Overview, Goals, Proposed Outcomes
- Program Description
- Frequently Asked Questions

Pre-solicitation/webinar discussion-
Final RFA supersedes this document

Overview

- Develop an ambitious, new approach to solving major development challenges.
 - Harness the intellectual power of faculty, students, and staff.
- Create sustainable, creative, evidence-based, multidisciplinary approaches to international development.
- Build partnerships with developing world to support the expansion of the role of science, technology, and engineering in solving complex development problems.

Pre-solicitation/webinar discussion-
Final RFA supersedes this document



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

Overview

Released a draft RFA around USAID-higher education engagement in international development, which will reinforce current Agency initiatives:

- Grand Challenges for Development
- Global Health Initiative
- Feed the Future
- Global Climate Change
- Partnerships with federal science agencies (NSF, NIH, EPA, NOAA, USGS)
- Expansion Geospatial Analysis capabilities

Pre-solicitation/webinar discussion-
Final RFA supersedes this document



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

Goals

1. *Address USAID's need for development data and analysis*

Serve as the analytical center for the Agency and address the Agency's need for development data, evidence, and analysis that can feed into policy, including using geospatial technologies for problem identification, analysis, donor coordination, programming, and monitoring and evaluation; and conducting futures analysis and research for better comprehension of future threats.

Pre-solicitation/webinar discussion-
Final RFA supersedes this document



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

Goals

2. Test and scale new models for development

Incentivize universities to create development labs that can design, adapt, rigorously test, and scale emerging technologies, systems, and approaches for development with partners in developing countries.

Goals

3. Engage new solvers and incentivize new solutions

Harness the excitement and energy of students and faculty interest towards global problems. Incentivize change on university campuses to take a multidisciplinary approach to development. Support a culture of entrepreneurship in developing countries as a means to address developing country problems, including global health, food security, water, climate change, environment, and conflict.



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

Proposed Outcomes: Improve Efficacy of Development

- Build centers for multidisciplinary analysis.
- Build analysis centers to address the development communities needs for data coherence.
- Encourage scholarship around application of development approaches

Pre-solicitation/webinar discussion-
Final RFA supersedes this document



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

Proposed Outcomes: Relationships

- Build faculty exchanges with USAID
- Develop student internships
- Create relationships with developing countries.
- Identify partners to test and scale the newest S&T for development.

Pre-solicitation/webinar discussion-
Final RFA supersedes this document



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

Proposed Outcomes: Culture Change

- Build developing country S&T
- Leverage student and postdoctoral engagement and exchanges
- Foster open and collaborative approaches to attract students, faculty, and staff to development
- Build new communities of solvers

Pre-solicitation/webinar discussion-
Final RFA supersedes this document



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

Program Description

Novel approaches and models for development will provide alternative approaches to problem solving and attract new solvers by:

- Leveraging external partners to build constituency
- Building analytical strengths and capacity around problems
- Developing new S&T tools to solve challenges
- Galvanizing new approaches to development and incentivizing higher education institutions to support this change
- Leveraging student engagement in international development
- Improving USAID's analytical capacity and capabilities

Pre-solicitation/webinar discussion-
Final RFA supersedes this document



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

Program Description

Partnerships will:

- Be sustainable and last beyond the term of the award
- Be mutually-influential and benefit the institution and USAID
- Allow higher education institutions to serve as a network node for development and work with novel partners, such as NGOs and small businesses
- Facilitate culture change
- Engage students

Pre-solicitation/webinar discussion-
Final RFA supersedes this document



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

Characteristics of Successful Centers

- Creativity & Novelty
- Multidisciplinary & Analytical
- Sustainability
- Leverage
- Partnerships
- Focused Problem-Solving
- Risk Tolerant
- Independent

Pre-solicitation/webinar discussion-
Final RFA supersedes this document



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

Program Description

Funding:

1. Individual partnerships: \$1-2 Million annually for 5 years
2. Consortium partnerships: \$5 Million annually for 5 years.
 - 3-4 academic institutions, with at least one from the developing world.

A significant cost share from applicants is encouraged to support sustainability and scale of proposed activities post-award period.

Leveraging through external resources (e.g., private sector, foundations, NGOs, small businesses, and other development agencies) is also strongly encouraged.

Pre-solicitation/webinar discussion-
Final RFA supersedes this document



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

Timeline

Major Milestones

- January 12 Draft RFA issued
- January 24 Workshop with academic institutions on draft RFA
- January 30 Workshop with academic institutions on draft RFA

Projected Milestones

- Early Feb Final RFA issued
- April 2 Applications due
- April 26 External review complete
- May 11 Applications review complete
- June 13 Announcement of awardees
- Sept 1 Award period begins

Pre-solicitation/webinar discussion-
Final RFA supersedes this document



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What is the best way to contact USAID about this opportunity?

A: UERFA@usaid.gov or www.usaid.gov/universities

Pre-solicitation/webinar discussion-
Final RFA supersedes this document